



A. J. H. H. H.

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE.

(Public Health Department)



ANNUAL REPORT

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COUNCIL OFFICES,
OXTED, SURREY.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

(also: Medical Officer of Health, Reigate M.B.
and Divisional Medical Officer, Surrey C.C.)

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Public Health Inspector:

PETER F. WEST, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Inspector
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ROY DUNNETT.

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JOHN LUCK.



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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1957

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District of Godstone in the year 1957. The Report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, as indicated in Circular 1/58, and in the main follows the same arrangement as earlier issues in the same series.

Reference is made to a fairly circumscribed outbreak of measles in the early Spring and to extensive prevalence of Asian influenza, with relatively high mortality amongst elderly persons, in the latter part of the year. Otherwise, there was no major outbreak of acute infectious disease. The downward trend in the incidence of tuberculosis of the lungs was continued, while the case rate for tuberculosis of other organs fell to the lowest level yet observed in the Rural District. The marked reduction in the number of cases of bacillary dysentery, the low prevalence of acute infectious diseases of the nervous system and the absence of confirmed cases of bacterial food poisoning are especially noteworthy.

With regard to the prevention of infectious illness, attention is again drawn to the satisfactory position with regard to the acceptance of protective inoculation against the range of diseases for which effective immunising agents are now available. The recent introduction of a modified type of the Salk vaccine for protective inoculation against paralytic poliomyelitis is an important advance in the field of protective action, though its ultimate value and possible limitations can only be fully assessed in the light of experience.

On the whole, the various statistical rates for the year compare favourably with any previously recorded. The advance in the birth rate to 16.3, the highest rate for the past ten years, was accompanied by a record low rate of mortality amongst the new-born babies. The proportion of infants

registered as still-born was also very much below the average. The recorded death rate of 12.5 is slightly higher than in the two preceding years, but is not unfavourable; when adjusted for purposes of comparison, the rate is reduced to 9.6, which compares with a national rate of 11.5. Attention is drawn to a marked increase in the mortality attributed to diseases of the heart and circulation, mainly related to the very elderly, and to the slightly higher death rate for all forms of cancer and malignant disease. There were rather fewer deaths from motor vehicle accidents and a welcome and substantial reduction in the number attributed to other accidental causes.

It was not found necessary to exercise the powers of the Council under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, to secure the removal to hospital or other suitable premises of persons who were gravely ill or infirm, living in insanitary circumstances and incapable of being properly cared for in their own homes. Several cases in which it appeared that such action should be considered were fully investigated; one of the persons concerned was eventually persuaded to accept admission to a residential institution for old people, while the essential needs of the others were met by the assistance available through the existing domiciliary services. It is generally agreed that, except in cases of real urgency, it is preferable to accept a lower standard of environmental hygiene than cause the distress that compulsory removal inevitably involves.

While it would scarcely be possible to report exhaustively or in detail on the various routine activities of the Public Health Department, reference might be made to the substantial progress made during the year in implementing the Council's five-year programme for the clearance of unfit houses and the very considerable amount of time devoted to housing inspections for other purposes. Due attention was also given to other routine matters, including the measures to ensure a satisfactory standard of purity and quality of water, milk and food supplies, duties under the Factories Acts, sanitary inspection, scavenging and cleansing, disinfection and disinfestation and other matters having a direct bearing on environmental hygiene and the prevention of disease and ill-health.

I again gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the support and consideration they have kindly extended to me throughout the year. My sincere thanks are due

also to Mr.A.H.Sewell, Chief Public Health Inspector, and his assistants and to the medical practitioners in the area for their willing assistance and close co-operation in all matters of mutual concern.

I am, Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. H. BINGHAM

Medical Officer of Health.

20th September, 1958.

SECTION I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (Land and Inland Water) in acres	52,507
Population at Census, 1951	32,823
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population at Mid-year, 1957	35,440
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1957, according to the Rate Books	11,338
Rateable Value (1957)	£531,814
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£2,131

TABLE I

The area and population at the 1951 Census of the various Parishes comprising the Rural District, and the rateable value of each Parish at the end of 1957, are as follows:-

PARISHES	AREA IN ACRES	RATEABLE VALUE AT END OF 1957	CENSUS POPULATION OF PARISHES - 1951	ESTIMATED POPULATION MID-YEAR 1957
Bletchingley	5,813	£ 38,373	3,164	3,211
Burstow	4,750	40,796	2,961	3,091
Chelsham	2,703	14,518	1,390	1,228
Crowhurst	2,119	3,780	330	321
Felbridge	2,080	22,189	--*	1,494
Godstone	4,464	60,418	5,033	4,340
Horne	3,603	8,978	1,102	808
Limpsfield	4,673	68,789	3,499	3,449
Lingfield	9,239	84,265	5,951	6,520
Nutfield	3,390	40,255	2,043	2,050
Oxted	3,658	119,488	5,420	6,775
Tandridge	2,722	8,304	802	800
Tatsfield	1,304	14,354	1,009	1,225
Titsey	1,989	5,253	119	128
(S.E. Gas Board	--	2,014	--	--
<u>TOTALS</u>	52,507	£531,814	32,823	35,440

* Constituted as a separate Parish on 1st April, 1953.

TABLE II
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births:-

Legitimate	Males 268	Females 280	Total	548
Illegitimate	" 16	" 16	"	32

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population:- 16.3

Do. 1956 15.0

Do. for the five years 1952 to 1956 13.9

Still Births:-

Legitimate	Males 8	Females 4	Total	12
Illegitimate	" 0	" 0	"	0

Rate per 1,000 total births:- 20.2

Do. 1956 20.5

Deaths (Nett) :- Males 206 Females 237 Total 443

Do. 1956 " 193 " 234 " 427

Death Rate per 1,000 population:- 12.5

Do. for 1956 12.0

Do. for the five years 1952 to 1956 12.2

Percentage of total deaths occurring in public institutions:- 47.4

Deaths of Infants under the age of one year:-

Legitimate	Males 6	Females 3	Total	9
Illegitimate	" 0	" 1	"	1

Death Rate of Infants under one year:-

All infants per 1,000 live births 17.24

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 16.4

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 31.2

Deaths from:-

Cancer	67
Measles	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

The estimated population of the Godstone Rural District at mid-year, 1957, represents a population increment of 720, or 2.0 per cent, in the preceding twelve months, of which 137 is attributable to natural increase (i.e. the number by which live births exceeded the deaths) and 583 to migration into the area. The population gains under both headings, particularly the former, are appreciably greater than usual.

The recorded birth rate of 16.3 is the highest for ten years and, when adjusted for purposes of comparison, is advanced to 18.0, which compares with a rate of 16.1 for the country as a whole. It is of favourable significance that the rise in the birth rate was accompanied by a reduction in the proportion of infants registered as stillborn and by an exceptionally high rate of survival of new-born babies; in fact, the infant mortality rate of 17.2 per 1,000 live births is the lowest yet observed in the Rural District and compares very favourably with a corresponding rate of 23.0 for England and Wales.

The general death rate was 12.5 per 1,000 of the population. The rate is not unduly high, having regard to the large proportion of elderly persons in the local population. When adjusted to allow for this factor, the rate is reduced to 9.6, which compares with the national death rate of 11.5.

The rise in the death rate in 1957 was mainly due to substantial increase in the number of deaths attributed to diseases of the heart and circulation, in most cases of the terminal or degenerative type associated with senility. Deaths from all forms of cancer and malignant disease also were above the average for the Rural District, more markedly so as regards females, though the total mortality from this cause remained appreciably below that for the country as a whole. The death rate for cancer of the lung was somewhat below the annual average for the Rural District, and is little more than one-half of the corresponding rate for England and Wales. The relatively large number of deaths from influenza occurred mainly in the latter part of the year, when the Asian type of the disease was extensively prevalent.

The numbers of deaths assigned to other specified and defined causes, as set out in Table III, approximate to the average for the Rural District and do not indicate unusual or excessive mortality from any particular cause or significant association with occupation or environment.

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1957.

	M.	F.	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	3
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	1	1	2
3. Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	2	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	4	12
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	9	9
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	6	6
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	16	32
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	2	3
16. Diabetes	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	24	32	56
18. Coronary disease, angina	35	31	66
19. Hypertension with heart disease	9	7	16
20. Other heart disease	23	43	66
21. Other circulatory disease	20	17	37
22. Influenza	3	10	13
23. Pneumonia	11	21	32
24. Bronchitis	6	2	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	2	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	3	6
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	2	-	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	22	21	43
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	-	3
34. All other accidents	3	4	7
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Totals	206	237	443

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND

OTHER DISEASES.

Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious disease is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Patients from the Godstone Rural District are admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bletchingley, if the required accommodation and facilities are available; otherwise, they are sent to isolation hospitals in other parts of the Hospital Region. The disposal to different hospitals of the cases notified during the year was as follows:-

Godstone Infectious Diseases Hospital, Bletchingley	24 cases
Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton	2 "
Cuddington Hospital, Banstead	2 "
Western Fever Hospital, Fulham	2 "
Smallfield Section, Redhill County Hospital	1 case
Farnborough Hospital	1 "
	<hr/>
	32 cases

Uncomplicated cases of the commoner infections, such as measles, mumps and whooping cough, are not usually accepted, unless recommended by the Medical Officer of Health on the grounds that the patient cannot be satisfactorily isolated and treated at home; several such cases were admitted to hospital during the year.

There was no complaint of difficulty or delay in securing the admission of infectious patients to hospital; neither was there complaint of dissatisfaction with the arrangements for ambulance transport, nor with the quality of the hospital services given.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Table IV shows the numbers of the various notifiable infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital and the total deaths from each disease.

TABLE IV.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
NOTIFIED IN THE GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT
DURING THE YEAR 1957

	CASES NOTIFIED IN AGE PERIODS												Totals	Total cases removed to hospital.	Total Deaths
	Under 1 Year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	1	-	8	2	-	2	-	-	-	14	8	-
Whooping Cough	2	4	6	5	5	38	4	-	1	-	-	-	65	7	-
Measles	10	18	30	39	35	208	26	2	5	-	1	-	374	7	-
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	1	6	3	16	3	32*
Dysentery	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	1	1	10	18	3	-
Acute Poliomyelitis															
(a) Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	3	3	-
(b) Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-
Totals	12	23	38	45	40	258	36	4	11	3	9	14	493	32	32
Totals 1956	4	2	11	13	15	113	16	3	7	1	4	6	195	75	38

* All Forms.

Reference has been made in previous reports to the observed decline in the prevalence and severity of scarlet fever during recent years. The cases reported in 1957 were mild in type and represent a very low rate of incidence. Home isolation was permitted and encouraged wherever arrangements for the purpose were reasonably satisfactory, and no restrictions were imposed on immediate contacts, with the exception of food handlers and others whose occupation might involve risk of spread of infection.

The number of notified cases of whooping cough was somewhat higher than in 1956 or 1955, but was well below the average for the Rural District in the preceding ten years. In this case also the infection was, on the whole, clinically very mild and free from the respiratory complications, which were largely responsible for the relatively high mortality formerly associated with whooping cough in very young children. The effect of previous vaccination was clearly apparent in reducing the severity of the illness and it was again noted that many vaccinated children escaped infection, though intimately exposed to it.

Measles occurs in epidemic waves in alternate years and, following the low prevalence of the disease in 1956, it was not unexpected that a considerable number of cases were reported in 1957. The total number was, however, much smaller than in previous years of epidemic prevalence. The age incidence followed the usual pattern, being highest amongst pre-school children and new entrants to infants' departments.

Most of the cases of pneumonia occurred in the late Autumn and in five instances were stated to be secondary to influenza, which was unusually prevalent at that time. It is probable that many of the others also, though not so designated, were secondary to influenza. The total number of cases is not above the average for the Rural District.

It may be noted that the deaths from pneumonia far outnumber the cases notified. These figures, however, are not directly related, as the deaths ascribed to pneumonia include many due to non-notifiable forms of the disease. The mortality amongst notified cases was, in fact, unusually low.

It is pleasing to report a very substantial decline in the prevalence of bacillary dysentery, which has figured much too prominently in the returns of infectious diseases in recent years. The reported cases were all of the Sonne type and included a group of 14 occurring almost simultaneously amongst patients in the Warlingham Park Hospital; the remaining 4 were scattered amongst the general population and had no known connection with each other. Although Sonne dysentery is not usually a serious disease, except possibly in the very young and the aged, the investigation of possible sources of infection, the surveillance of confirmed cases and their immediate contacts and the collection of repeated specimens for laboratory examination involve a very considerable amount of time and trouble and tend to encroach on the routine activities of the Public Health Department.

The number of confirmed cases of acute poliomyelitis was the lowest for the past five years, though an unusually large proportion had paralytic symptoms at some stage of their illness. The latter were not severely affected, with the exception of one with respiratory involvement which necessitated a period of treatment in a mechanical respirator. All were treated in hospital and recovered satisfactorily.

In conformity with modern practice, admission to hospital of all suspected cases of poliomyelitis was encouraged during the season of expected prevalence, so that they might have the benefit of laboratory investigation and specialised treatment, should it be necessary. The provisional diagnosis of poliomyelitis was not confirmed in the six suspected cases admitted to hospital during the year.

There were no formal notifications of food poisoning, but the usual investigations were carried out in several cases in which there was reason to suspect that illness may have been due to the consumption of infected or contaminated food. The laboratory examinations made in the course of these investigations led to the discovery of seven symptomless carriers of organisms commonly associated with outbreaks of food poisoning; the persons concerned were referred for appropriate medical treatment and were kept under close surveillance until laboratory reports indicated that they were free from infection.

TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table V, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from the disease during the same period.

Twenty cases of tuberculosis of the lungs were reported in the Rural District in 1957, as compared with twenty-two in 1956. There was, however, a slightly higher incidence of the disease amongst males, with a sharp reduction in the number of females affected, in both cases related to persons in the intermediate age groups. The case rate for this form of the disease was 0.56 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0.63 in 1956, 0.53 in 1955 and an average rate of 0.70 in the preceding five years. Although the downward trend in the prevalence of respiratory tuberculosis in recent years may be attributed to several factors, it has undoubtedly been accelerated by the discovery of early cases through mass radiography and by the routine B.C.G. vaccination of thirteen-year-old school children. Further decline might reasonably be expected to follow wider acceptance of these essentially preventive services.

The rate of prevalence of non-respiratory tuberculosis has fallen fairly steadily in the past few years and, in 1957, reached the lowest level yet observed in the Rural District, being 0.08 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0.11 in 1956 and an average rate of 0.10 in the preceding five years. The reduction in incidence has been most pronounced in the younger age groups, probably in consequence of the special preventive measures adopted in relation to children and young adolescents.

In addition to the new cases notified for the first time, there were reports of twenty-five previously-known cases of tuberculosis who had recently taken up residence in the district. In many of these the disease is considered to be quiescent or arrested, but all are under the supervision of the staff of the Chest Clinic.

There were three deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, as compared with one in 1956. The death rate for this form of the disease was 0.08 per 1,000, which is very much below the average for the past ten years; the corresponding rate for England and Wales was 0.09. There was no significant increase in the mortality ascribed to tuberculosis of other organs.

TABLE V.

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, AND ALL DEATHS
FROM THE DISEASE IN THE AREA DURING 1957
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE, SEX AND TYPE OF DISEASE.

Age periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	3	-	1	-	1	-	1	-
35 - 45 years	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
55 - 65 years	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	4	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Totals	16	4	1	2	2	1	1	1
Totals 1956	14	8	-	4	-	1	-	1

At the end of the year there were 217 known cases of tuberculosis in the district, including 170 (96 males and 74 females) in which the lungs were affected, and 47 (17 males and 30 females) with tuberculosis of other organs. Thirty-nine cases were removed from the list during the year - nine on death, fourteen on leaving the district and sixteen on complete recovery from the disease.

No special action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.)

The South East Surrey Care Association, which works in close association with the local chest clinics, continued its activities on behalf of tuberculous persons and their dependants. Assistance granted during the year included the supply of extra nourishment, fuel, bedding, clothing, sick room requisites, etc., and payment of fares, pocket money and other incidental expenses which could not be met from official sources.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Information relating to the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious and contagious diseases is necessarily incomplete, and is obtained mainly from reports of school absentees, the periodic statements of sickness claims submitted to the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in relation to insured persons and the Registrar's weekly returns of deaths. Cases also come to notice through enquiries by employers with regard to quarantine periods, requests for disinfection, casual communications by private medical practitioners and applications for domestic assistance under the Home Help Scheme.

Information obtained from these various sources indicated that influenza due to the Asian type of virus was extensively prevalent in the Rural District in the latter part of September and the early part of October, when neighbouring Sanitary Districts were similarly affected. The illness

in most cases was clinically mild, with rapid recovery, and the epidemic wave passed very quickly. Although prevalence was greatest amongst persons in the younger age groups, the deaths from the disease were practically confined to the very elderly. In consultation with representatives of the medical practitioners and of the hospital authorities in the area, tentative plans were made for co-operation and mutual help between the various medical interests concerned in the event of the infection increasing in prevalence or severity. It was, fortunately, not necessary to put these plans into operation.

It was reported in the early Spring that some twenty-six school children in the Felbridge district had suffered from sudden attacks of abdominal pain, followed by moderately severe vomiting lasting from 24 to 36 hours. A similar outbreak in the same area and affecting roughly the same number of pupils was reported at the beginning of the Winter term, though there had been sporadic cases in the interim. Full investigation of both outbreaks, including laboratory examination of the water and milk supplies to the school and of specimens from the pupils affected, failed to disclose the presence of any bacterial or chemical agent to which the illness could be attributed; neither was it possible to establish any direct connection with school meals or with the sanitary amenities of the school premises. There was, nevertheless, strong presumptive evidence that the illness was infective in origin and was mainly disseminated through the medium of school attendance. It was concluded that these were typical outbreaks of epidemic vomiting of virus causation and that the only effective preventive measure was immediate exclusion from school of affected pupils.

Apart from the occurrence of 87 cases of mumps (mainly in the Limpsfield and Lingfield districts), there was no undue prevalence of other non-notifiable infectious illnesses. The reported cases included 56 of chicken-pox, 6 of German measles, 4 of acute gastro-enteritis, 3 of meningitis and 1 of glandular fever; 12 of these cases were admitted to hospital for treatment or observation.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Vaccination against Small-pox.

Vaccination against small-pox is not at present undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the area. Particulars of notifications of vaccinations performed by private medical practitioners during the year are as follows:

	<u>0 - 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Over 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Primary Vaccination</u>	200	178	28	51	457
<u>Re-vaccination</u>	-	10	56	239	305

The total number of primary vaccinations, and more especially of infants in the younger age groups, is one of the highest observed in the Rural District since compulsory powers in relation to small-pox vaccination were abolished under the National Health Service Act. It is estimated that roughly 35.0 per cent of the babies born in 1957 were successfully vaccinated against small-pox before the end of the year. This proportion is above the average for recent years, but it is undoubtedly capable of very substantial increase. There is an unfortunate tendency on the part of parents to postpone the vaccination of their children until their second or third year; although it is better that they should be vaccinated then than not at all, it is generally advisable that protection should be conferred in early infancy. This point is stressed by the health visitors in the course of their routine visiting of mothers of young children.

Most of the re-vaccinations were of persons who were required to produce a certificate of recent vaccination to enable them to travel abroad. Such certificates must be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the person normally resides.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Immunisation against diphtheria is available through general medical practitioners and at the County Council's Clinics in the area. The numbers of children artificially immunised during the year are as follows:

<u>0 - 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>
314	145	132	591

In addition, reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 210 persons, most of whom were school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously.

The rate of acceptance of diphtheria immunisation has been well maintained, though the foregoing figures represent some reduction on the unusually high figures reported in the previous year. Actual cases of diphtheria are now so uncommon that many parents are inclined to underestimate the importance of having their children protected against it. Acceptance in recent years has been greatly stimulated by the practice of combining the immunising agents of diphtheria and whooping cough, thus conferring protection simultaneously against both diseases. It was thought advisable, however, to suspend the use of combined vaccines during the Summer months, in view of the statistical evidence that they may possibly tend to provoke the onset of paralysis if given in the early stages of infection with poliomyelitis.

It is estimated that not less than 60.0 per cent of children under the age of fifteen years have been artificially immunised against diphtheria, either by their own doctors or at the County Council's clinics.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough.

Vaccination against whooping cough is intended mainly for infants under the age of one year and is undertaken by private medical practitioners and at the County Council's clinics in the area. The numbers of children who completed a course of treatment under these arrangements are as follows:-

	<u>Under 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 - 2</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>2 - 3</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>3 - 4</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>4 - 5</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Primary</u> <u>Immunised</u>	309	85	21	12	7	13	447
<u>Reinforcing</u> <u>Injections</u>	-	-	2	1	20	27	50

The foregoing figures represent a satisfactory rate of acceptance of whooping cough vaccination, particularly in the case of very young infants for whom it is primarily intended. It is estimated that at least 53.0 per cent of the infants born in 1957 completed a course of whooping cough vaccination, as compared with 45.0 per cent in 1956. While it is not claimed that whooping cough vaccination affords absolute protection in every case, it has been amply demonstrated that it undoubtedly reduces the severity and duration of the disease in vaccinated children who are subsequently attacked and greatly minimises the risk of serious complications.

Measles Prophylaxis.

Immune serum is available through the Public Health Department for the total or partial immunisation of susceptible measles contacts. No request for serum was received during the year.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

For several years it has been the accepted practice to offer protective inoculation, by B.C.G. Vaccine, to selected children from households in which there is an infectious case of tuberculosis. This work is undertaken mainly by the Chest Physicians, with occasional assistance from the Divisional Medical Staff.

This scheme has been extended to include all thirteen-year-old pupils at County Council and independent schools. Subject to the consent of their parents, the pupils in this age group have a skin test to ascertain if they have already had a primary tuberculus infection, and those giving a negative result are offered B.C.G. Vaccination. Six senior schools in the Godstone Rural District were dealt with during the year, with the following results:-

Number of children eligible for treatment	413
Number consenting to treatment	259
Percentage consenting to treatment	62.7

Number Mantoux tested	230
Number giving a negative reaction	168
Percentage giving a negative reaction	73.0

Number of negative reactors vaccinated	167
Percentage of negative reactors vaccinated	99.4

Number of vaccinated children re-tested	152
Number giving a positive reaction	123
Percentage giving a positive reaction	80.9

The percentage acceptance of testing and vaccination and of negative reactors successfully vaccinated are very satisfactory and compare favourably with corresponding findings in other districts.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

The County Council's immunisation arrangements were extended in the early part of 1956 to include vaccination against poliomyelitis. The scheme was at first restricted to children born in the years 1947 to 1954, inclusive, but was extended in May, 1957, to those born in 1955 and 1956, and, in December, to all children between the ages of six months and fifteen years, in addition to expectant mothers, medical practitioners and their families, ambulance personnel and others exposed to special risk. Those desiring vaccination were required to be duly registered for the purpose with the Local Health Authority.

The scheme is operated on a Divisional basis and it is consequently not easily possible to compile precise or detailed figures for individual Sanitary Districts. So far as the Rural District of Godstone is concerned, a total of 816 eligible persons were vaccinated against poliomyelitis in 1957, either at the County Council's clinics or by their own doctors; this represents a small proportion of the applicants registered for treatment. Progress under the scheme was much impeded by the very limited supply and uncertain delivery of the British type vaccine then in use; supplies have since been very greatly augmented by the importation of Salk vaccine of American and Canadian manufacture.

Vaccination against Tetanus.

The County Council's immunisation arrangements now include vaccination against tetanus of children whose parents expressly wish them to be so protected. The tetanus vaccine may be given separately, but is usually combined with the agents used for active immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, thus reducing the number of inoculations and affording simultaneous protection against all three diseases. A total of 156 persons were vaccinated against tetanus in 1957.

Vaccination against Influenza.

Mass vaccination against influenza was not officially recommended in the Autumn epidemic, but limited quantities of a specially prepared vaccine against the Asian type of virus were made available for the protection of medical practitioners, district nurses, health visitors, home helps and others who visit the sick at home and are, in consequence, specially liable to be exposed to infection. The storage and issue of this vaccine was undertaken by the Public Health Department.

Protection against other Diseases.

Protective inoculation against other infectious diseases, such as enteric fever, cholera, yellow fever, etc., is necessary in the case of persons proposing to visit foreign countries where these diseases are endemic, and is usually undertaken at approved centres. The International Certificate required in such cases must be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the person resides.

WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of the Parish of Tatsfield, which obtains its supply mainly from the Metropolitan Water Board, the whole of the Rural District is supplied by the East Surrey Water Company. In parts of the Parish of Oxted, the Parish of Limpsfield and the parts of Tatsfield supplied by the Company, the water is derived from the lower greensand, and elsewhere from deep borings in the chalk; the water from both sources is chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers.

The supplies from the public water mains were adequate in quantity throughout the year. The quality, as revealed by chemical and bacteriological examination at regular intervals, was invariably reported to be satisfactory. No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination.

Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the Water Companies concerned. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and/or bacteriologically about forty times a year, under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the East Surrey Water Company; samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the Analyst's reports are circulated to all the districts concerned.

The estimated number of dwelling-houses in each parish supplied from the public water mains (direct to houses and by means of stand-pipes), wells and rain-water tanks are set out in Table VI. The population supplied under each heading is shown in brackets.

Supplies from rain-water tanks are confined to out-lying dwellings in the Parish of Tatsfield and not infrequently fail completely after prolonged periods of dry weather. In such an emergency, a 300 gallon tank is borrowed, free of charge, from the East Surrey Water Company and is used for the conveyance of water by local authority transport to replenish the drinking water supplies of the dwellings affected; this service was put into operation on two occasions during the early part of the year. Additional supplies of water for drinking and domestic purposes can usually be obtained from the Metropolitan Water Board, on payment of a small charge to cover transport costs.

TABLE VI

	DIRECT TO HOUSES	STAND PIPES	WELLS	RAIN WATER TANKS
Bletchingley	954 (3151)	10 (35)	8 (25)	
Burstow	935 (3077)		4 (14)	
Chelsham	321 (1213)			4 (15)
Crowhurst	114 (321)			
Felbridge	554 (1479)	1 (3)	4 (12)	
Godstone	1400 (4290)	12 (36)	5 (14)	
Horne	250 (788)		7 (20)	
Limpsfield	1217 (3442)		3 (7)	
Lingfield	2309 (6505)		6 (15)	
Nutfield	622 (2013)	17 (33)	2 (4)	
Oxted	1892 (6768)		2 (7)	
Tandridge	228 (795)		2 (5)	
Tatsfield	342 (996)	3 (9)		66 (220)
Titsey	44 (128)			
<u>TOTALS</u>	11,182 (34,966)	43 (116)	43 (123)	70 (235)

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During 1957, Phase I of the main drainage scheme for the Parish of Tatsfield was commenced, and 102 houses were connected thereto.

TABLE VII
CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Address of Clinic	Infant Welfare	Ante-Natal	Dental	Eye	Minor Ailments	Remedial Exercises	Speech Therapy
<u>BLETCHINGLEY.</u> Church Room.	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>BLINDLEY HEATH.</u> Forman Institute.	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>DORMANSLAND.</u> Baptist Chapel.	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>GODSTONE.</u> Whyte Hart Barn.	Wednesday p.m. (1st, 3rd. & 5th)	-	-	-	Wednesday p.m. (1st, 3rd. & 5th)	-	-
<u>HURST GREEN.</u> St. Agatha's Hall.	Monday p.m.	-	-	-	Monday p.m.	-	-
<u>LIMPSFIELD.</u> Chart Hall.	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>LINGFIELD.</u> Bakers Lane. (Lingfield 43)	Tuesday p.m.	Friday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	Wednesday a.m. and p.m. Thursday p.m.	Friday p.m. (4th)	Friday a.m. (1st & 3rd)	By appoint- ment.	By appoint- ment
<u>NUTFIELD, SOUTH.</u> Village Hall.	Tuesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Tuesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
<u>OXFED.</u> Congregational Hall, Station Road East. (Oxford 3164)	Tuesday p.m.	Monday a.m.	Friday a.m. and p.m.	Wednesday a.m. (1st & 3rd)	Monday a.m.	By appoint- ment.	-
<u>SMALLFIELD.</u> Church Hall.	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
<u>TATSFIELD.</u> Parish Hall.	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-

SECTION II.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Inspections under Public Health Acts	176
Re-inspections	117
Inspections under Housing Acts	381
Re-inspections	163
Inspections for issue of Certificates of Disrepair	61
Drainage surveys	96
Visits to Slaughter House Premises	21
Visits to Slaughter Houses for Meat Inspection	1126
Visits to Knackers Yards	13
Visits to Dairies and Cowsheds	161
Visits to Schools	92
Inspection of Food - number of visits	36
Inspections of Food Premises	48
Inspections of Factories and Workshops	49
Piggeries - Inspections and Re-inspections	23
Fireguards Act Inspections	2
Inspections of Tents, Vans etc.	48
Inspections under Petroleum Acts and Regulations	47
Drains Water tested	32
Inspection of drainage work in progress	40
Notices served:-	
(a) Informal	177
(b) Statutory	12
Complaints investigated	52
Infectious disease enquiries and collection of specimens	59
Inspection of refuse tips	43
Samples of drinking water submitted for Bacterial and/or Chemical Analysis	33
Miscellaneous inspections	122
Number of Cesspools cleansed	2,947
Number of loads removed from cesspools	4,696
Disinfection of premises	9
Disinfestation of premises	72
Premises inspected for rat or mice infestation	1,370
Rat Infestations dealt with by Public Health Department	319
Inspections under Pet Animals Act	3

SECTION III

H O U S I N G

TABLE VIII

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year 1957.

(i)	Inspections of houses under Housing and Public Health Acts.	414
(ii)	Number of dwellinghouses (included in sub-head (i)) which were inspected under the Housing Acts only.	381
(iii)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be so unfit as to be incapable of repair at a reasonable cost.	33
(iv)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	48

2. Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied.

(i)	After informal action by local authority.	33
(ii)	After formal notice under (a) Public Health Act.	7
	(b) Housing Act, 1936.	5
(iii)	Under Section 5 Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954.	Nil

3. Houses Demolished.

(i)	Clearance Areas.	Nil
(ii)	Not in Clearance Area - as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936.	Nil

4. Unfit houses closed.

(i)	Under Section 11 Housing Act, 1936, and Section 10(1) and 11(2) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.	13
(ii)	Under Sections 3(1) and 3(2) Housing Act, 1949.	Nil
(iii)	Parts of buildings closed under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936.	Nil

5. (a) Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954.

(i)	Number of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair under Section 26.	1
(ii)	Number of Certificates granted under (i) above.	1

(b) Rent Act, 1957.

(i)	Number of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair.	17
(ii)	Councils decision to issue Form L Notices under Schedule III	16
(iii)	Number of undertakings given by landlords to remedy defects	7
(iv)	Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	Nil

6. Houses Erected.

(i)	Number of houses completed in 1957 by private enterprise.	400
(ii)	Number completed by local authority (a) tenanted	32
	(b) tenant purchase	16

SECTION IV.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The factories on the Register of the
Local Authority are as follows:-

TABLE IX

	<u>Mechanical Power</u>	<u>Non-Mechan- ical Power</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aircraft Components	1	0	1
Agricultural Engineers	1	0	1
Aircraft Repairs (Engines)	1	0	1
Bakeries	10	5	15
Boot Repairing	2	0	2
Brass Finishing	1	0	1
Brick Making	4	0	4
Builders	5	9	14
Button Making	1	0	1
Cabinet Makers	1	1	2
Chemical Manufacturers	1	0	1
Cleaners and Dyers	1	0	1
Coach Builders	1	0	1
Concrete Products	2	0	2
Corn Provenders	2	0	2
Cosmetics	1	0	1
Cycle Repairers	0	1	1
Dairies	3	0	3
Dressmaking	0	1	1
Electrical Engineering	2	2	4
Fire Extinguishers	1	0	1
Flour Milling	2	0	2
Fruit Storage	1	0	1
Fullers Earth Works	2	0	2
French Chalk Grinders	1	0	1
Gas Storage	3	0	3
Grass Drying	2	0	2
Hydraulic Equipment	1	0	1
Jewellers	0	2	2
Joinery	7	1	8
Laundries	2	4	6
Leaded Lights	1	0	1
Light Engineering Works	8	0	8
Motor Repairers	25	2	27
Plumbers	0	1	1
Pottery	1	0	1
Printers	2	0	2
Projection Room	1	0	1
Radar Assembly	1	0	1
Rectifiers	1	0	1
Refrigerator Repairs	1	0	1
Rodent Destruction	0	1	1
Saddlery	0	2	2
Sawmills	2	0	2
Stonemason	0	1	1
Smithies	2	0	2
Tile Making	1	0	1
Tool Makers	1	0	1
Tailoring	0	4	4
Upholstery	1	0	1
Wax Modelling	1	0	1
Wheelwrights	2	0	2
Woodcrafts	2	0	2
	115	37	152

The following Table indicating the work carried out during the year 1957 in connection with the inspection of Factories, is submitted in accordance with Section 128 of the Act:-

INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	37	14	1	Nil
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	115	35	5	Nil
3. Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	152	49	6	Nil

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	2	Nil	3	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	In hand	Nil	1	Nil
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
TOTAL	6	4	Nil	6	Nil

OUTWORK (SECTION 110 and 111)

During the course of the year, 7 lists of outworkers were received, and these referred to the following occupations:-

Wearing apparel - making etc.	...	3
Finishing of leather goods	...	1
Box making	1
Artificial jewels	1
Lamp shades	4

In each case, the premises concerned were private houses situated in the Parishes of Burstow, Lingfield, Limpsfield, Nutfield and Godstone. In each case, the houses were found to be satisfactory and no action was necessary under the Factories Act.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS (SECTION 34)

Towards the end of 1957, factory premises at Hurst Green expanded and it became necessary for a major inspection to be made in order to ascertain whether the means of escape in case of fire were still adequate under the new conditions. Certain recommendations were made to the management to provide additional exits and stairways, etc. and this work is going to be put in hand to enable a new Certificate to be issued as required by the Factories Act.

Routine visits of inspection were made to factory premises as set out in Table IX of this Report.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

There has been a steady increase in the number of houses being erected in the Godstone Rural District, and this has resulted in additional quantities of refuse to be removed. This has meant that the existing staff and vehicles have no margin to cope with bad weather conditions or illness of staff, and when circumstances produce either or both these conditions, the refuse collection schedules are affected.

It is not always appreciated by the general public that much could be done to assist in maintaining regular collections by keeping as much combustible material as possible out of the dustbins, and to dispose of organic matter by composting where possible for use on the garden, and in this way to reduce the quantity and putrescible content of the dustbin so that where, through circumstances beyond our control, refuse has to be left for a longer period than normal, there would be much less likelihood of a nuisance arising from the bin, and less inconvenience through the bin being over-full.

It is noteworthy that the amount of refuse per household continues to show a steady rise, and also the amount of combustible material, mainly paper, which the average bin contains, is a high proportion of the actual content of the bin, forming in the ultimate load discharged at the refuse tip of possibly as much as 30% paper. The tipping of refuse with such a high proportion of paper results in unsightliness in and around the tip, and uses up valuable labour in collecting the paper which has blown about during unloading operations.

Originally the refuse collection was started in those parts of the district which were becoming urban in character in order to provide a very necessary amenity. As the population density has increased, so the weekly collection has also been extended, and some years ago, in order to try and give every part of the area a reasonable collection, a fortnightly collection of refuse was instituted in those parts of the district which were sparsely populated, but which nevertheless needed a service to remove indestructible matter such as tins and bottles etc. The present position is that these originally sparsely populated parts of the Council's area have developed at a considerable rate since the war and are now in some cases as densely populated as the districts which are receiving a weekly collection.

Naturally enough, residents in these newly developed sites are very anxious that the refuse collection should be extended to weekly frequency in order to have the same benefits from this more frequent removal of refuse as other parts of the district enjoy. With the existing staff and vehicles, it has not been possible to meet this demand as yet, but the matter is constantly under review in order to gradually improve the frequency of collection.

It will be noted that the Registrar-General's estimate of resident population for the Godstone Rural District is 35,440, and that the amount of refuse which is being collected under the present arrangements per annum amounts to somewhere around 28,000 cubic yards, and this is all conveyed to the disposal tip situated at Taylors Hill Sandpit, Godstone. Here, it is levelled and covered by the use of a Chaseside Mechanical Shovel and Spreader producing a surface over which the refuse vehicles can travel without the need for sleeper roads or other aids to traction. Mechanical aid of this kind in disposing of the refuse is absolutely essential if a satisfactory result is to be obtained.

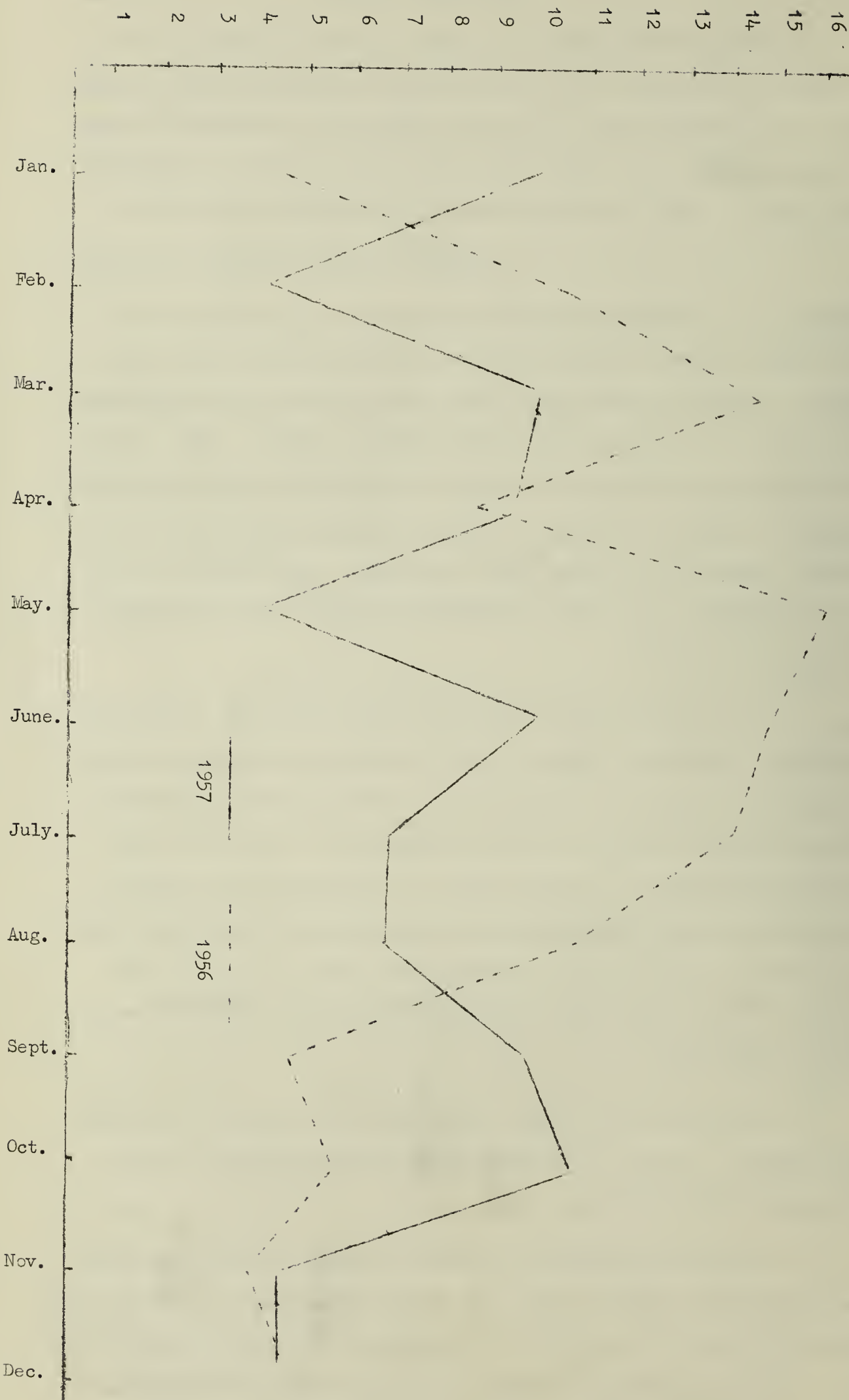
It is regrettable that during the course of the year, at weekends in particular, considerable damage was done to buildings and to the tip face, by irresponsible people visiting the tip, and although the Police co-operated fully in trying to stop this form of hooliganism, it proved to be a very difficult task because of the open nature of the ground involved, and the ease with which unauthorised people on the tip can see the approach of anyone in authority. Needless to say, damage of this kind is not only a great nuisance, but also gives rise to the diversion of valuable labour in making good the damage done.

During the year, 97 tons of waste paper were returned to the Mills for repulping. A chart is attached showing monthly quantities of waste paper dealt with in this way.

We have been requested to cut down the amount of waste paper to be sent to the Mills owing to large stocks having accumulated, and lack of storage space precluding the building up of any additional reserve, and this will mean that we have, at least for a period, to keep our monthly quantity down to 7 tons.

Tons

SALVAGE COLLECTION.



PET SHOPS ACT, 1951.

There are three premises licensed under this Act, and in the case of two, these are actually private dwellings, the owners of which breed budgerigars as a hobby, but when they have quantities surplus to their own requirements, they do sell, and therefore come within the scope of this Act. The remaining premises incorporate the occasional sale of goldfish and caged birds from their corn chandler's premises.

In all three cases, the premises are well run and conform to the requirements of the Pet Shops Act and no official action has yet been necessary.

FIREGUARDS ACT, 1952.

It will be noted that only two official inspections were made for the purposes of this Act during the year, but constant observation is kept on all window displays concerning the offer for sale to the public of apparatus which has to comply with this Act, but so far, there has been no necessity to submit any such apparatus to the tests laid down, because most manufacturers are now producing appliances which comply in every way with the Act.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

During the course of 1957, the number of cesspools emptied and loads removed rose above the previous year's total by a substantial amount. The number of cesspools cleansed being 2,947, involving the removal of 4,696 loads. As a matter of interest, the gallonage so dealt with amounted to 3,522,000. A contractor had to be employed in order to enable us to meet very heavy demands made upon our two vehicles, and he emptied of the total involved 852 cesspools and removed 1,451 loads in the process.

One important event affecting the emptying of cesspools took place during the year, and this was the construction of Phase I of the Tatsfield Main Sewerage Scheme, and resulted in the connection of 102 properties to main drainage by the end of the year.

Unfortunately this advantage will be lost by the construction of new houses on cesspool drainage in other parts of the district, but nevertheless the policy of extending main drainage wherever possible must ultimately result in a great reduction in the number of cesspools to be cleansed, although in a scattered rural district, quite obviously there will always be a certain number of properties requiring this service.

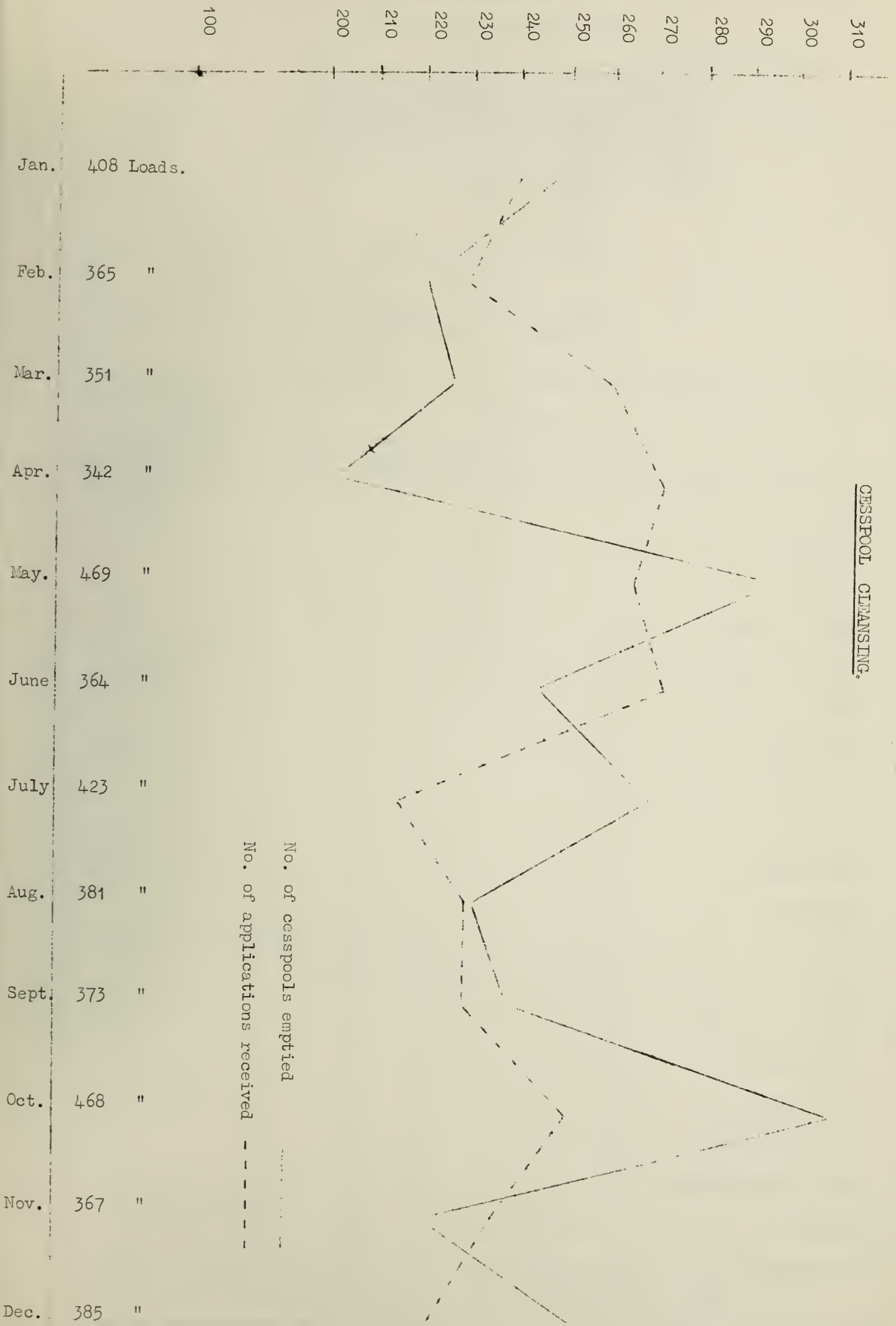
Disposal of the greater proportion of the cesspool contents removed by the tankers was discharged either into one or other of the sewers, or was taken direct to Lingfield Sewage Disposal Works for treatment. The emptying of cesspool contents into public sewers always results in complains being received of offensive smell whilst this process is in operation, but every effort is made to reduce any such inconvenience by the use of special covers, and by the selection of manholes as remote as possible from built-up areas.

MORTUARY.

The number of bodies brought into the Mortuary during the year was 65 and of these, 35 came from the Godstone Rural District, and 30 were from the Caterham and Warlingham Urban District. This figure shows an increase of 9 on the previous year, but this is only to be expected when two areas such as Godstone and Caterham are expanding fairly rapidly. There were occasions when the use of refrigerated storage facilities would have been of great advantage, but this is a matter which has got to receive very careful consideration at some future date. The cost of installing such apparatus is relatively high.

The Mortuary Keeper looked after the premises very well during the year and there was no cause for complaint.

CESSPOOL CLEANING.



SECTION V.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

The Surrey County Council is the Authority responsible for the sampling of foodstuffs, and the following list is a record of the samples and action taken within the Godstone Rural District. In addition a return of the samples submitted and analysed throughout the County for 1957 is appended.

SAMPLES AND ACTION TAKEN

WITHIN THE

GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT.

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>FOOD:</u>						
Biscuits	1	-	1			
Butter	4	-	4	1	-	1
Crab, dressed	1	-	1			
Cream, double	1	-	1			
Dates	1	-	1			
Fish Cakes	2	-	2			
Fruit, dried	2	-	2			
Lard	1	-	1			
Lemon juice	3	-	3			
Marmalade	1	-	1			
Meat Pies	2	2	4	1	-	1
Milk	67	6	73			
Pate de Foie Truffe	1	-	1			
Sausage Meat	1	-	1			
Soft Drinks	4	-	4			
Sponge Pudding	1	-	1			
Sugar Confectionery	1	-	1			
Vinegar	1	-	1			
Totals	95	8	103	2	-	2

Return of Samples analysed during Year 1957.

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>FOOD:</u>						
Almonds, ground	-	2	2			
Bacon	-	2	2			
Beer	-	1	1			
Biscuits	1	-	1			
Bread	1	1	2	1	1	2
Butter	11	3	14	1	-	1
Cake mixture	-	2	2	-	1	1
Cereals	1	-	1			
Cheese	-	1	1			
Cherries, glace	-	1	1			
Cherries, tinned	-	1	1			
Chocolate Drink	1	1	2			
Christmas Pudding	-	1	1			
Crab, dressed	1	-	1			
Cream, double	1	1	2			
Cream, single	3	-	3	1	-	1
Cream, tinned	-	1	1			
Curry powder	-	1	1			
Dates	1	-	1			
Dripping	2	-	2			
Fish	-	1	1			
Fish Cakes	2	1	3			
Flour	-	10	10	-	3	3
Flour confectionery	1	1	2			
Fruit, dried	3	-	3			
Grapefruit	-	1	1			
Honey	1	-	1			
Ice-Cream	9	5	14			
Ice Lollies	6	-	6			
Jam	5	4	9			
Jelly	-	1	1			
Lard	6	-	6			
Lemon juice	3	-	3			
Margarine	-	1	1			
Marmalade	1	-	1			
Mayonnaise	-	1	1			
Meat	-	1	1			
Meat, cooked and prepared	19	4	23	14	4	18
Meat Pies	2	2	4	1	-	1
Milk	549	106	655	10 ^½	1	11
Milk, condensed	-	1	1			
Mince meat	5	-	5			
Mint Sauce	-	1	1	-	1	1
Olive Oil	-	1	1			
Oranges, tinned	-	1	1			
Pate de Foie Truffe	1	-	1			
Peaches, tinned	-	1	1			
Pepper	1	1	2			
Prunes	-	1	1			
Carried forward	637	165	802	28	11	39

*Legal proceedings were instituted and convictions obtained against two dairy farmers; one for selling Channel Islands Milk deficient in milk fat, the other for selling Channel Islands Milk containing added water.

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>Brought forward</u>	637	165	802	28	11	39
<u>FOOD: (Continued)</u>						
Raspberries, tinned	-	2	2			
Rum	2	-	2			
Salad Cream	-	1	1			
Sausage Meat	1	-	1			
Sausage Roll	1	-	1			
Sausage, slicing	-	1	1			
Sausages	11	6	17			
Soft Drinks	14	3	17			
Soup	-	1	1			
Sponge Pudding	1	-	1			
Strawberries	-	1	1			
Sugar	2	1	3			
Sugar confectionery	1	6	7			
Tea	4	2	6			
Tomato juice	1	1	2			
Tomato ketchup	-	1	1			
Tomato puree	-	1	1			
Vinegar	3	2	5			
Whisky	23	2	25			
Wine	-	2	2			
<u>DRUGS:</u>						
Aspirin tablets	-	3	3			
Cod Liver Oil	-	1	1			
Hand cream, medicated	-	1	1			
Nasal drops	-	1	1			
Nasal inhaler	-	1	1			
Syrup of Figs	-	1	1			
Tonic	-	1	1			
Totals	701	207	908	28	11	39

SECTION VI.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 7 dairy premises (excluding dairy farms) on the Register and 13 milk distributors are also registered by the local authority. We have also 9 distributors from adjoining districts trading within the Godstone Rural District, and these traders have to hold supplementary licences from this authority to enable them to comply with the law.

The number of pasteurising plants in operation within the district is 2 and both these establishments are visited at least twice per month when samples of milk are taken from the plant, and also from the previous day's pasteurising in order to check that the requirements for pasteurised milk are being complied with. There are further checks on these two plants available in that school milk supplied by them is also sampled at the Schools in addition of course to other suppliers. Details of the number of milk samples taken and the results are set out in the following Table:-

Milk Samples (Farms)

(a) No. of samples passed biological examination	80
(b) " " " failed " "	1
(c) " " " void	1
Total number of farm milk samples taken	81

Milk Samples (Dairies)

(a) No. of samples satisfied Meth. Blue and Phosphatase exam.	73
(b) " " " failed " " exam.	1
(c) " " " " Phosphatase "	Nil
Total number of dairy milk samples taken	74

Milk Samples (Schools)

(a) No. of samples satisfied Meth. Blue and Phosphatase exam.	88
(b) " " " failed " " exam.	4
(c) " " " " Phosphatase "	Nil
Total number of school milk samples taken	92
Milk samples taken from Institutions	2

Raw milk is subjected to biological examination in order to ascertain whether or not there is any tubercle bacilli present. All samples taken during the year were negative in this respect.

Examination is also made for *Brucella Abortus* and in those cases where a positive result is obtained, or the organism is found, the premises concerned are referred to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and they have always provided most willing co-operation in

the investigation of the animals concerned.

The examination of all samples of milk taken from schools, dairies, farms, etc. are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Brighton, and Dr. Jameson and his Staff provide a most satisfactory service and thanks are due to them, not only for this, but also for their unfailing courtesy and help in any problem which is referred to them.

(b) SHOPS ACT, 1934, and FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Food premises situated within the Godstone Rural District are divided into the following categories:-

Grocers, Provision Merchants and General Stores	...	74
Bakers and Confectioners	17
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	16
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	52
Fishmongers	8
Public Houses	50
Confectioners	31
Butchers	23
Hospitals and Private and Boarding Schools	38
Registered ice cream premises	96
Premises in which food is prepared	24

During the course of the year, 48 visits of inspection were made to food premises for various purposes. Advice and suggestions were given on several occasions, and resulted in improved conditions. Naturally enough, owners of food premises are more likely to be interested in matters which improve their premises, and form selling points, and it is somewhat more difficult to get what could be termed "behind the scenes" improvements which show no significant or obvious benefit as far as attraction to customer is concerned. Nevertheless, as a whole, food traders are anxious and willing to meet any reasonable requirements when the need for this has been fully explained.

The importance of personal hygiene of course cannot be over-stressed and perhaps the most important aspect of this is the proper washing of hand before handling food.

In a scattered rural area, it is not always possible to devote as much time as one would wish to the supervision of food shops and food handlers, and one can only deal with any misdemeanours which may occur if one actually sees this taking place, but in the main, I think that the general standard throughout

the district in complying with the Food Hygiene Regulations is reasonably good.

The surrender of food by traders considered to be unfit for human consumption necessitated 36 visits for inspection and the following is a table of the foodstuffs inspected and condemned:-

13 x 6 lbs. Corned Beef	-	decomposition (damaged tins)
43 pkts. Soup Powder	-	mouldy.
18 lbs. Potato Flour	-	stale.
48 lbs. Peeled Tomatoes	-	blown tin.
8 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. Imported Beef	-	calloused tissue.
40 lbs. English Beef	-	bone taint.
6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. tin Stewed Steak	-	perforated tin.
7 lbs. Pork Sausages	-	decomposition.
28 lbs. Pork Kidneys	-	decomposition.
6 stones Dogfish	-	decomposition.
83 lbs. Cod Fillets	-	parasitic condition.
9 x 7 lbs. Smoked Fillet	-	decomposition.

ICE CREAM.

There are 96 premises registered for the sale of ice cream, and all of these premises sell pre-wrapped ice cream supplied by reputable manufacturers, with the exception of one trader who occasionally makes up a cold mix which does not come within the scope of the Heat Treatment Regulations, but this is becoming less frequent, and he is gradually going over to the sale of one of the more popular makes.

No samples were taken during the year in view of the fact that all the different brands of ice cream being sold within the Godstone Rural District are sampled at source, and also quite extensively by other districts in which the ice cream is being sold. It was felt that the laboratories were being faced with repetitive work quite unnecessarily.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are 8 slaughterhouses licensed by the Council, 7 of which are in regular use. During the year, considerable evening and weekend work has been necessary in order to maintain one hundred percent inspection of the meat slaughtered, and this entailed during the year 1,447 visits, and of these, 1,126 were for the purposes of carrying out meat inspection. The slaughtering is almost without exception carried out during the early and late evening, or on occasions, Saturday afternoons or Sunday, and this is necessitated by the employment of part-time labour employed elsewhere during the day-time.

There is also in some cases the slaughtering of animals destined for the wholesale market, which means that it has to be removed early the following morning, and under the existing legislation, animals slaughtered after seven in the evening may be removed after seven the next morning, irrespective of whether it has been inspected or not. The practical outcome of this is that inspection must be made the previous night if it is to be properly examined. The butchers co-operate very well, but of course with such a system as this, it is not possible to eliminate the need for the evening inspection.

In regard to the standards of hygiene maintained in the slaughterhouse, it is quite reasonable in most cases, and excellent on one particular premises. There is, however, a problem in regard to one small slaughterhouse which is being used somewhat excessively and by the nature of its design, it was never intended for the throughput to which it is being subjected at the moment. The anticipated legislation affecting slaughterhouses is not yet to hand and it is hoped that some note will be taken of the need to control hours of slaughtering and also to give local authorities more control over conditions of licensing.

Mention must be made of the method of disposing of diseased meat or meat unfit for human consumption. In the case of diseased meat, it is heavily disinfected and either buried or incinerated, or in the case of a seriously diseased condition, removed by the Meat Inspector for disposal under supervision. In regard to meat which is condemned on the grounds of a condition rather than a disease, this is treated with a green vegetable dye and released for animal feeding or to the fat merchants.

There is one knackers yard licensed by the local authority, and the premises generally are reasonable. The number of animals being dealt with at these premises is not so great as heretofore, and I understand that one reason for this is the considerable amount of weeding out of old cattle which has taken place in recent years in bringing the animal attested scheme into being.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE
OR IN PART DURING THE YEAR 1957.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	520	144	372	915	1,286
Number inspected	520	144	372	915	1,286
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	4	3	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	120	39	1	30	69
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	23.1	27.7	1.33	3.6	5.6
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	15	12	-	-	25
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.04	8.3	-	-	2.02
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Entire carcass and organs	1	-	-	-	1
Hindquarters	-	-	-	-	-
Forequarters	-	1	-	-	-
Part of forequarter	-	1	-	-	-
Heads and tongues	7	8	-	-	25
Lungs	8	6	-	-	1
Livers	4	2	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	5	-	-	-	-

MEAT INSPECTION
SUMMARY OF CONDEMNATIONS OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

DESCRIPTION	Number of animals Inspected	Other Conditions												Total	
		Fever	Odaema, Emacia- tion, including Immaturity	Congestion	Injury	Septicaemia	Pyæmia	Distomatosis and Cirrhosis	Parasitic conditions	Abscesses	Pleurisy and Peritonitis	Pneumonia	Cavernous Angioma		Miscellaneous
<u>BOVINES</u> (excluding calves) - Whole Carcasses and Organs Part Carcase Heads and Tongues Lungs Livers and Part Livers Mesentery and Intestines	664	- - - - - -	1 - - - - -	- - - - - -	2 - - - - -	- - 1 1 1 1	- - 1 1 1 1	- - - - - -	- - - - - -	- - - - - -	- - 6 - - -	- - - - - -	- - - - - -	- - - - - -	1 2 1 1 9 140 1
<u>CALVES</u> - Whole Carcasses and Organs Lungs Livers	372	- - - -	1 - - -	1 1 1 1	- - - -	- - 1 1	2 - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	4 1 1 1
<u>SHEEP</u> - Whole Carcasses and Organs Part Carcasses Lungs Livers	915	- 1 - - -	1 - - -	1 1 1 1	2 1 1 1	- - - -	- - - -	- 6 3 -	2 2 - -	- - - -	- 3 - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	3 4 13 5
<u>PIGS</u> - Whole Carcasses and Organs Part Carcasses Heads and Tongues Lungs Livers	1,286	2 - - - -	1 - - -	- - 1 1 1	7 - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - 24 -	- - - -	- - - -	2 - - -	3 9 1 30 23
TOTALS	3,037	3	4	10	13	4	2	84	20	57	10	33	8	3	251

SECTION VII.

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Details of the work done by the Rodent Operator is set out in a Table attached. There were 53 major infestations of rats and 22 for mice, and the total number of infestations treated during the year was 319 which is again a small increase over the previous year.

The control of the rat population in the district requires the utmost vigilance being maintained, and this can only be achieved by constant supervision of those premises and sites providing a special attraction to rats and mice. In this category of course, refuse tips, slaughterhouses and food premises probably form the greatest attraction, but it must not be forgotten that the humble chicken run in the back garden is another fruitful source of infestation. In most cases, the scattering of food indiscriminately to the chicken also provides a very good feeding ground for the rat. It cannot be emphasised too strongly that all food, whether for human or animal consumption, should be properly protected, and that no loose food of any kind should be left scattered around.

In regard to sewers, and sewage disposal works, an annual testing is carried out and any necessary treatment follows. Rats seem to have a great liking for sewage works and also on occasions to live in the sewers and the routine testing laid down by the Ministry is a very necessary method of control.

School Canteens and Kitchens are all visited and given precautionary treatment for insect infestations, and at the same time, they are also inspected and if necessary tested for possible rat and mice infestation.

The kitchen at Smallfield Hospital is under constant supervision and receives regular visits from our Rodent Officer. Cockroach and steam fly infestations have been very heavy on these premises, but with the carrying out of unremitting inspection and treatment, the condition is now vastly improved, and although not completely cured, is at least, under control.

In regard to Convalescent Homes run by the Surrey County Council, an annual fee is paid to enable routine visits to be made to all their Convalescent Homes in the district, and this also covers the cost of any treatment which may be found to be necessary.

TABLE X
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.
REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1958.

		TYPE OF PROPERTY				
		Non-Agricultural				(5) Agri- cultural
		(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) and (3)	
I	Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	13	9,791	1,050	10,854	484
II	Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
	(a) Notification	1	215	43	259	25
	(b) Survey under the Act	38	58	3	99	20
	(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	20	524	480	1,024	301
III	Total inspections carried out - including re-inspections. (To be completed only if figures are readily available.)	60	760	550	1,370	321
IV	Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by:					
	(a) Rats (Major)	5	32	5	42	11
	(a) Rats (Minor)	11	119	18	148	9
	(b) Mice (Major)	--	18	2	20	2
	(b) Mice (Minor)	--	68	15	83	4
V	Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given at Sect. IV)	16	237	40	293	26
VI	Total treatments carried out - including re-treatments. (To be completed only if figures are readily available.)	--	--	--	--	--
VII	Number of notices served under Sect. 4 of the Act:					
	(a) Treatment	--	--	--	--	--
	(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	--	--	--	--	--
VIII	Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act.	--	--	--	--	--
IX	Legal Proceedings	--	--	--	--	--
X	Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	16				
<p>NOTE 1 - With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area.</p> <p>NOTE 2 - (i) Premises used by the L.A. for the purposes of trade should be entered in Col. (3). (ii) Sewers should not be included. (iii) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Col. (3). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Cols. (2) & (3).</p> <p>NOTE 3 - For the purpose of completing Sections II, IV and V, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.</p>						

